

when the Normal School was made up of only 156 students, the principal, and 11 faculty members, West Chester University has blossomed and expanded as a provider of quality education for today's young people.

Today, more than 10,000 undergraduate students and nearly 2,000 graduate students are enrolled at West Chester University, receiving an affordable quality education. In fact, West Chester University is now the second largest of the institutions that make up Pennsylvania's State system of higher education.

The university offers these students a wide variety of educational opportunities, including degrees in the arts and sciences, teacher training and certification, continuing education classes for adults, and advance study in medicine, law, and education. In fact, I am so convinced of the superior educational offerings of my alma mater that I didn't hesitate when two of my three daughters told me that they wanted to attend West Chester University.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a graduate of this fine institution. I am confident West Chester University will continue to bring a high-quality education experience to the community as well as the entire Delaware Valley. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating West Chester University on 125 years of excellence in education.

IN THE HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF NORTH HUDSON, INC.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly altruistic organization, the Kiwanis Club of North Hudson, Inc., as it celebrates the 75th anniversary of its charter which was signed on March 1, 1922. This milestone in the history of the North Hudson, New Jersey area will be remembered at a gathering on April 26, 1997 at Louis Restaurant in Union City.

Kiwanis Clubs throughout the United States have a long history of service to their communities. The Kiwanis Club of North Hudson is certainly no exception. Over the past 75 years, the men and women of this organization have endeavored to make the lives of area residents a little brighter through their selfless dedication to those in need. Their commitment to excellence was cemented with the dedication of Kiwanis Plaza on September 27, 1994, located on Bergenline Avenue in Union City.

The Kiwanis Club of North Hudson has made a profound impact on the lives of community members fortunate enough to have benefited from its charitable endeavors. Municipalities throughout the area have seen their residents obtain scholarships and other financial assistance through funds raised by the devoted members of this group. The kind efforts of Kiwanis Club members will long be remembered.

The diamond anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of North Hudson celebrates the extraordinary contributions of the club's living past presidents. A roll of presidents will take place, where all members will be honored for their unique contributions to the history of this exemplary organization.

It is an honor to have a notable organization such as the Kiwanis Club of North Hudson serving the residents of my district. It is a shining example of community service at its best.

DEDICATION OF HERMAN TALMADGE HIGHWAY

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to a former distinguished member of the U.S. Congress. I speak of Herman Eugene Talmadge, U.S. Senator from the State of Georgia, former chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee and vice chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. On Wednesday, April 23, 1997, I had the honor of delivering the keynote address at the dedication of the Herman Talmadge Highway in Hampton, GA. I wish to enter those remarks into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in honor of Senator Herman Talmadge.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE MAC COLLINS, ON THE DEDICATION OF HERMAN TALMADGE HIGHWAY, HAMPTON, GA, APRIL 23, 1997

It is not only a privilege but a pleasure to be here today with so many of Georgia's past and present leaders to honor a special man. I want to extend a special thank you to Agriculture Commissioner Tommy Irving for acting as our Master of Ceremonies today and also to my good friend Rogers Wade who was responsible for organizing this wonderful event. As many of you know, Rogers was the Chief-of-Staff to our honoree for many years. Rogers took the lessons he learned from him to become one of Georgia's premier governmental specialists.

I also want to recognize my friend Wayne Shackelford. His leadership as Commissioner of Transportation has given Georgia one of the best highway systems in the nation. And last, but certainly not least, I know all of you will join with me in thanking the Honorable Zell Miller, Governor of the Great State of Georgia, for the outstanding job he has done over the past six years.

Governor, the legacy you will leave includes a state that is recognized as a leader in helping people move from welfare rolls to payrolls; a state that provides a better education for our children; and a state that is responsible and accountable to its citizens. For this, we owe you our gratitude.

I know that you, as well as everyone here today, has admired the man we are here to honor. His distinguished career has included serving his nation as a Naval officer during World War II, as Governor, and a United States Senator. The Honorable Herman Talmadge, a son of Georgia. While Herman Talmadge rose to great heights in our nation's government, he never forgot where he came from or whom he represented.

Herman Talmadge has always been the champion of rural America. During his long career as a public servant, he stood for every American who has farmed an acre of land or run the family-owned business found in small towns across rural America. He worked for all Americans who worked with their hands and their backs to earn an honest living and provide a home for their families.

Herman Talmadge knows these people. But more importantly, he genuinely cares for them. He was born and raised in rural McRae, Georgia, where the majority of people made their living by farming, or operat-

ing or working for small businesses located around the town square. He lived what many people only talk about today—family values, love of God and Country, community service, and the pride and rewards of work.

His love of politics and the desire to help the people came naturally. His father, Gene Talmadge, was elected Governor of Georgia four times. Following his graduation from the University of Georgia School of Law, a young Herman Talmadge was tapped to run his father's campaign for the United States Senate. Gene Talmadge lost to the incumbent Senator but went on to win his third term as Governor two years later. And his son was right there with him. Herman Talmadge gained valuable hands-on experience and state-wide contacts that would serve him well in the years to come.

Following the campaign, he joined the United States Naval Reserve and was commissioned an ensign. During World War II, his bravery and courage were demonstrated time and again as he requested transfer from state-side duty to the Pacific theater. There, he took part in the invasion of Guadalcanal, the battle of Okinawa and other encounters with the Japanese Fleet. On V-J Day, Lieutenant Commander Herman Talmadge entered Tokyo Bay with the U.S. Navy forces.

After the war, he returned home and managed his father's last campaign. In 1946, the Honorable Gene Talmadge was elected to his fourth term as Governor of Georgia. But prior to taking office, the Governor-elect passed away. The vacancy left by the death of Gene Talmadge resulted in what can only be called an "interesting" political situation in Georgia. Herman Talmadge was elected by the Georgia House of Representatives to fill the term won by his father. But the incumbent Governor and just-elected Lieutenant Governor also claimed the chief Executive's office. Eventually, the State Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Lieutenant Governor.

In 1948, Herman Talmadge left the shadow of his famous father and launched his own political career by running for the office his father had won four times. He campaigned on issues that were the hallmarks of his career in the Governor's office and the United States Senate. When he won, he carried through on his promises to help the rural areas of Georgia.

As the nation's then youngest Governor, Herman Talmadge launched a campaign to modernize his state. He built roads and bridges to link the vast stretches of rural Georgia. He built hospitals in rural areas where there were none before. These facilities brought health care to an entire class of people who had little or no access to medical care. The new Governor deeply believed in education. He built new schools for our children and dedicated a portion of the sales tax to increasing teacher salaries.

But no matter what projects Gov. Herman Talmadge built or what programs he implemented, he did so only if the State of Georgia could afford them and pay for them. He was a deficit hawk long before that term became popular.

In 1956, he won a seat in the United States Senate where he continued his work—only now it was for all Americans. As Chairman of the Senate Agriculture, Forestry and Nutrition Committee, Senator Talmadge was responsible for the passage of many laws that revitalized rural America and greatly improved the quality of life for all our citizens. As his former Senate colleague, Robert Byrd of West Virginia, so eloquently stated in 1980, the legislation crafted by Herman Talmadge is the "blueprint for the entire structure of our agricultural, rural development and nutrition policies."

Senator Talmadge believed that no child or adult should go hungry in a country that

produces enough food to feed the world. But he saw poverty and hunger in many areas of our nation. He saw men and women, parents and families fighting to make a living in rural areas that were losing population and business to the cities. He also saw that same hunger and poverty in the faces of those who had migrated to the cities to try and better their lives and the lives of their families.

To combat this tragedy, Senator Talmadge authored legislation to ensure no American would go hungry. He wrote the law establishing the school lunch program. He helped to develop the food stamp program for needy individuals and families. At their inception, Senator Talmadge ensured these programs would help those who needed the help. He also believed that these programs should help those who helped themselves. Herman Talmadge was raised with a strong work ethic and he supported provisions to the law that able-bodied people should work for these benefits. Senator Talmadge did not want federal assistance to become a way of life for any American.

Senator Talmadge created an Agriculture Subcommittee to focus on the problems and opportunities of rural America. Through his leadership, Congress passed legislation that provided low interest loans to local governments for sewers, water treatment plants and health facilities. He also worked to pass legislation providing industrial development loans to local governments which they used as "seed" money to attract industrial projects to rural areas. I would like everyone here to note the fact that these programs were not federal "give-aways." The money provided to local governments and rural communities was paid back to the federal treasury—with interest.

As I have pointed out, Senator Talmadge has always been a guardian of the people's money. As a member of the powerful Senate Finance Committee, he supported legislation to eliminate fraud and abuse in the Federal Medicare and Medicaid programs. Senator Talmadge saw early on the potential costs of these programs to American taxpayers and worked to bring accountability to them.

I think it is appropriate we note that Senator Talmadge firmly believed that the federal government, like its state counterparts, should balance its budget every year. He supported a 1973 Constitutional amendment to prohibit the federal government from spending more than it took in—except in a Congressionally declared national emergency. In 1976, Senator Talmadge introduced a resolution calling for a balanced budget. He said that continued unrestricted spending would bring the nation to bankruptcy.

If Congress had heeded the wisdom of Senator Talmadge and acted upon his budget proposals, America's government and economy would be more financially secure. We who serve in Congress today, are working to enact the legislation proposed by Herman Talmadge over twenty years ago. We are working to balance the federal budget. We are working to save Medicare and Medicaid from the fraud and abuse that drains its precious financial resources. We are working to see that our children and grandchildren can grow up in an America that allows them to achieve their dreams.

Senator Herman Talmadge was a giant among giants in the United States Senate. He counseled Presidents and world leaders. He crafted and helped to pass legislation that has enhanced and enriched the lives of all Americans. And let none of us forget, Herman Talmadge and his colleagues also made our country strong in the face of communist aggression. Their courage in facing that threat allowed the United States to finally win the cold war and make our world a safer place to live.

For three decades, Herman Talmadge served Georgia and America. But he not only served, he led. That is the mark of a great public servant. And while Herman Talmadge achieved great power and success, he tempered it with grace, wisdom, compassion and a love for the people who elected him to high office.

We all owe Senator Talmadge our appreciation and our gratitude for dedicating his life to public service. He touched the lives of every Georgian and millions of Americans. He is truly a special man and he is very special to me. Thank you and God Bless you Senator.

THE WORKERS MEMORIAL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, April 25, 1997, the officers and delegates of the Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, will hold their 23d Annual Labor Awards and Community Service Banquet at the Knights of Columbus Hall in East Chicago, IN. This event honors those individuals who have provided outstanding service to labor and the community. It also serves as the Federation's "Workers Memorial", activity recognizing those who have been seriously injured or killed in the workplace. This event is northwest Indiana's largest labor celebration of the year, involving 45,000 member unionists and their friends. Participants will gather together to celebrate an evening of labor solidarity.

The Federation's highest honor, the 16th Annual President's Award, will be bestowed upon the Honorable Robert A. Pastrick, mayor of the city of East Chicago. This honor is awarded to an individual enhancing the well being of workers throughout northwest Indiana by countless contributions which have furthered the philosophy of the labor movement. In addition, Mr. John Buncich, Lake County sheriff, will be this year's recipient of the annual Service to Labor Award. This award is presented in honor of an individual's dedicated service and support to the labor movement. The Federation's Community Services Award will be presented to Mr. Ed Hiatt for offering both organized labor and the people of northwest Indiana dedicated leadership, compassion and service. Mr. Hiatt assisted with various Federation of Labor projects, including union counseling and the AFL-CIO Christmas Drive.

In addition, two members of the Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees [SOAR], Mr. John Mayerik, age 89, and Mr. Walter Mackerel, age 96, will be honored with the "Old Warrior" Award. This award is presented in recognition of the recipients' lifelong commitment to the labor movement and the principles which it embodies. Specifically, Mr. Mayerik served as president of Local Union 1014 and staff representative of the United Steelworkers of America. Presently, he is serving as trustee of SOAR Chapter 7-31-14. Mr. Mackerel actively served Local Union 1066, and he was instrumental in establishing and leading the retiree organization in District 7 of the United Steelworkers of America. Both gentlemen have unselfishly devoted their time and effort to assisting both individuals and the

communities in which they live for a number of years.

Also, the Federation's Union Label Award will be presented to the United Steelworkers of America, District 7. District 7 will be awarded this honor for demonstrating the true meaning of labor "solidarity" during the Bridgestone Firestone labor struggle. USWA, District 7 has been attributed with providing the leadership and commitment needed to win this fight for labor, as well as revitalizing the entire labor movement in northwest Indiana.

Each year, the Lake and Porter County area United Ways join with the Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, to conduct an 8-week basic union counselor training course. Upon completion of this program, those participating will be qualified to provide the labor community with invaluable information concerning available health and human services assistance. This year's counselor course participants will each receive a certificate of achievement at the awards banquet. They include: Jack Atwood, James Dilbeck, and Bruce Foreman from UAW #2335; William J. Brady and John F. Martinez from Carpenters #1005; David Brock and Andrew Cummins from Boilermakers #524; Duke Defflorio and Mike Winarski from Carpenters #599; James Dilbeck and Bruce Foreman from UAW #2335; Denise Drake, Lillian Garth, and Linda Shedrow from Consumer Credit C.S.; Hilario G. Gonzalez from USWA #1010; Jon L. Iglar and Herbertine Peck from AFSCME #1448; Jack Joyce, Robert Milsap, and Lon C. Powe from USWA #1014; Andrew J. Kremke and Joaquin Lopez from Teamsters #142; Lee Lynk, UAW 3235; Jessica Morris, Community Representative; Thomas Parker from USWA #1066; and Isacc R. Rosado from USWA #2281.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending all of the award recipients chosen by the Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, for their contributions to the labor movement. Their devotion to this cause has made America work.

INTRODUCTION OF TWO MAJOR EDUCATION BILLS

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing two major education bills that address both elementary and secondary, and higher education.

Last week I cosponsored President Clinton's Hope Scholarship proposal because I support the President's commitment to help parents finance their kids' education. Admittedly, I have concerns that the President's plan does not provide enough assistance for low-income families.

My view is that the most fair and effective way to improve college access and affordability for low-income families is through strengthening the Pell Grant program. That is why today I will introduce the College Access and Affordability Act of 1997.

As the chart to my immediate right illustrates, the value of Pell Grants has substantially decreased in recent years. In current dollars, the value of the maximum Pell Grant was